

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 20 and ending on line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Conventionally, as methods of degrading polysaccharides such as starch, there are known three methods including (1) acid hydrolysis, (2) enzyme hydrolysis, and (3) hydrolysis with subcritical water or supercritical water (refer to, for example, ~~JP-2000-210537-A~~ Japanese patent application No. 2000-210537 (JP-A-2002-20401); Shiro Saka and Tomonori Ueno, Chemical conversion of various celluloses to glucose and its derivatives in supercritical water, Cellulose, 6, p.177-191 (1999); Ortwin Bobleter, Hydrothermal degradation of polymers derived from plant, Prog. Polym. Sci., 19, p.797-841 (1994)).